(b) the reaction of India on this report; and

(c) whether there will be any preventive or curative process and measures to get over this nature's onslaught?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The U.N. Report provides a global assessment of observed climatechange, climate processes and estimates of projected future climate change including increase in average global temperatures. All countries including India are concerned about these findings. Necessary steps are being undertaken to address these issues most effectively through coordinated programs at National and International level.

(c) India is engaged in the International Climate Change Regime, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol, and various partnerships with other countries under the UNFCCC. Government have taken a number of initiatives like improving energy efficiency, conservation, afforestation and conservation of forests, encouraging mass rapid transport system, taking up environmental quality management all with a view to reduce climate change and mitigate its had effect.

Wastage of fruits and vegetables in the country

4125. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that about 60 thousand tones of fruits and vegetables are going to waste due to lack of processing facilities in the country;

(b) if-so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by Government alongwith the State Governments to process fruits and vegetables that go waste and use them for the poor people;

(c) whether Government propose to create opportunity for unemployed youths in the processing of fruits and vegetables that go waste; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) As per the report of M/s. Rabo India Finance Pvt. Ltd. wastage of fruit and

vegetables is estimated to be about Rs. 33,000 crore occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting like inadequate post-harvest infrastructure, lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage and processing facilities etc. Level of processing of fruit and vegetables in the country is estimated to be around 2.20%. For promotion of fruit and vegetables processing industries, under plan schemes of Ministry of Food Procesing Industries, financial assistance is provided in the form of grant for setting up of a new unit or for expansion of existing unit. Further, other schemes of Ministry promote fruit and vegetables processing industries through Infrastructure Development, Quality Assurance, Human Resource Development etc. besides other agencies of Government of India like NHB, APEDA, NCDC and State Government also provide assistance under their respective schemes.

(c) and (d) Vision 2015 on Food Processing Industries has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, which envisages cluster based and demand driven farming, achieving integration of food processing infrastructure from farm to market and promoting dynamic food processing industry which could result in trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. The realization of Vision 2015 is expected to generate 1.8 million direct and 6.4 million indirect employment for unemployed youths. In the farming sector, employment generation will cover landless labourers, small and marginal farmers, on farm extension services, cleaning, grading, packing, transportation sector, cold chain, input supply, industrial processing, storage, distribution centres and retail/marketing, logistic etc.

Setting up of food safety and Standard Authority of India

4126. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to set up the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India which has been a long standing demand of the industry, to facilitate the implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006;